



P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2
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Eur päisches
Pat ntamt

Zweigstelle
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European
Patent Office

Branch at
The Hague
Search
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des brevets

Département à
La Haye
Division de la
recherche

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FILE	
ACTION	SSW
13 JUL 2001	
RECORDS	DIARY
ACCOUNTS	PROGRESSOR

Datum/Date

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Zeichen/Ref./Réf. SJW/37034.EPP	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 00311721.5
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire TDK Corporation	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits

- ☐ the European search report
- ☐ the declaration under Rule 45 EPC
- ☒ the partial European search report under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the supplementary European search report concerning the international application under Article 157(2) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application. Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division :

- ☐ Abstract
- ☐ Title
- ☐ Figure
- ☒ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.
- ☐ The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.

Figure:

- ☒ Additional copy(copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



EPO Form 1507 02.93



European Patent
Office

PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 00 31 1721

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199139 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A18, AN 1991-286131 XP002163689 & JP 03 190912 A (SHOWA HIGH POLYMER KK), 20 August 1991 (1991-08-20) * abstract *	1,2,5, 10,11, 48,61, 63,77	H01B3/44
X	EP 0 258 695 A (DOW CHEMICAL CO) 9 March 1988 (1988-03-09) * page 6, line 24 - line 31; claims 1-10; example 1 *	10,11, 77-79, 81-84,86	
X A	WO 91 05002 A (ALLIED SIGNAL INC) 18 April 1991 (1991-04-18) * claims 1-11; example 1 *	48,51, 61,62 49,50, 52-60, 63-65	
A	WO 92 11580 A (ALLIED SIGNAL INC) 9 July 1992 (1992-07-09) * claims 1-13; example 24 *	1-86	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) H01B C07C
-/--			
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>see sheet C</p>			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 27 June 2001	Examiner Lehnert, A
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C07)



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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A	EP 0 953 608 A (NOF CORP ;TDK CORP (JP)) 3 November 1999 (1999-11-03) * claims 1-14; example 41 *	1-86	
A	EP 0 878 984 A (TOKIN CORP) 18 November 1998 (1998-11-18) * abstract *	34-47, 79-86	
D,A	& JP 10 079593 A (TOKIN CORP) 24 March 1998 (1998-03-24)		
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 014, no. 347 (M-1002), 26 July 1990 (1990-07-26) & JP 02 120040 A (HITACHI CHEM CO LTD), 8 May 1990 (1990-05-08) * abstract *	34-47, 79-86	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
X	WO 88 07562 A (ALLIED SIGNAL INC ;DOW CHEMICAL CO (US)) 6 October 1988 (1988-10-06) * claims 1-10; example IV *	66-69,71 70	
X	EP 0 260 443 A (DOW CHEMICAL CO) 23 March 1988 (1988-03-23) * claims 1-13; example 1 *	66-68,71 69,70	
D,A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 06, 30 June 1997 (1997-06-30) & JP 09 031006 A (SHOWA HIGHPOLYMER CO LTD), 4 February 1997 (1997-02-04) * abstract * & DATABASE WPI Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 1997-161446 * abstract *	1-86	

Filed
12/27/01



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



Claim(s) searched completely:
1-23,26-29,31-86

Claim(s) searched incompletely:
24,25,30

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Present claims 24,25,30 relate to an extremely large number of possible products. Support within the meaning of Article 84 EPC and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 83 EPC is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the products claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed.

The search for claim 24 has been restricted to a metal foil coated with the composite dielectric material of claims 20-23.; the search for claim 25 has been restricted to a copper foil coated with the composite dielectric material of claims 20-23. The search for claim 30 has been restricted to a moulded sheet made of the dielectric substrate of claims 26-29.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 31 1721

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

27-06-2001

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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ABSTRACT / ZUSAMMENFASSUNG / ABREGE

00311721.5

A composite dielectric material comprising a resin resulting from a polyvinylbenzyl ether compound and a dielectric ceramic powder dispersed therein is useful in the high-frequency region. A composite magnetic material comprising a polyvinylbenzyl ether compound and a magnetic powder is also provided as well as a flame retardant material comprising a polyvinylbenzyl ether compound and a flame retardant. These materials may be used in the fabrication of substrates, prepreg sheets, coated metal foils, molded items, and metal foil-clad substrates.